

1/8/73 The sniper in N.O. has taken a heavy toll, the story was played heavy on radio and TV everywhere, apparently, but it was business as usual at WWL. Having heard its news director, Fred Hammond, over and over, with updates, on CBS radio and TV, before going to bed I decided to see what new they'd air. It was just before the hour. Wasn't sure I had that Jesuit property when I heard Billy Graham. Hadn't tried to tune it in since 1970 but they had Billy. Then, with four minutes on the event, the entire newscast, back to another bible thumper. Their news was no different than what had been aired...My hunch is that it is a more violent black protest, conditions having gotten to the point where those involved feel death is worth the effectiveness of the lesson they hope to teach. The only alternative of which I can think is that all are insane. Makes me regret nothing happened with Desiree Too early for the paper and WWL has music-religious. Other stations add little to last night's accounts. It seems apparent that the men are skilled in the use of their weapons and have abundant ammo, no special trick with a motel, where the carrying of a bag attracts no attention. Even if across the street from Rault's Bldg, which I think is the case, and only 10 blocks from the jail and central police headquarters. MW